

More than 150 people came to a town hall meeting I hosted at the Waukegan Public Library today. At the meeting we honored Robert Thomas Edgar, a World War II Army private who was killed in Italy in 1944. His sister, Dorothy Corra of Lake Forest, contacted my office and we worked with her to track down the Purple Heart that Robert earned but never received.

I also invited the U.S. EPA to present their proposal to clean up Waukegan Harbor. From 1948 to 1971, Outboard Marine Corporation used approximately 8 million gallons of hydraulic fluid for die casting of engines. The fluid contained PCBs, which were dumped straight into Waukegan Harbor. Approximately 700,000 pounds of PCBs were present in the surrounding soil, and 300,000 pounds were present in the sediment of the harbor. In 2000, OMC declared bankruptcy, leaving cleanup efforts to the federal government.

The EPA is putting the final touches on a plan to dredge the Harbor and permanently remove this threat to human health. A clean Harbor will boost area land values and generate more than \$800 million for Lake County.

I also fielded a variety of questions from constituents on topics ranging from the stimulus to gangs to health care. Mayor Hyde and several Waukegan aldermen also took time out of their day to stop by and participate.

To receive a notice for our next town hall, sign up for our e-newsletter [here](#) .



